

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
BEAUMONT DIVISION

WILLIE LEON BARNES §
VS. § CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:24-CV-508
WILLACY COUNTY STATE JAIL §

MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER

Plaintiff Willie Leon Barnes, a prisoner currently confined at the Willacy County State Jail, proceeding *pro se*, filed this civil rights action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 against the Willacy County State Jail.

Discussion

When, as in this case, jurisdiction is not founded solely on diversity of citizenship, 28 U.S.C. § 1333 provides that venue is proper only in the judicial district where the defendants reside or in which the claim arose. However, under 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a), for the convenience of parties and witnesses and in the interest of justice, a district court may transfer any civil action to any other district where it could have been brought. Such a transfer may be done *sua sponte* and is reviewable only for an abuse of discretion. *Mills v. Beech Aircraft Corp.*, 886 F.2d 758, 761 (5th Cir. 1989).

Willacy County is located in the Brownsville Division of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas. The court has considered the circumstances and has determined that the interests of justice would be served if the complaint were transferred to the district in which the claims arose. Therefore, this action should be transferred to the Southern District of Texas. It is accordingly

ORDERED that this civil rights action is **TRANSFERRED** to the Brownsville Division of the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

SIGNED this 5th day of January, 2025.



Zack Hawthorn
United States Magistrate Judge